

## 2006 Best Book Nominees



<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<i>Men of Salt</i>	Benanav, Michael	<b>916. 604 BEN</b>
<p>Benanav writes his travelogue for his forty day journey across the Sahara desert. His account is honest about misconceptions that he had prior to the journey and warm when discussing the other people in his caravan.</p>		
<i>The Killer's Tears</i>	Bondoux, Anne-Laure	<b>YA FIC BON</b>
<p>Paolo was just a baby when thief and murderer, Angel, broke into his house and murdered both his parents. Paolo's life was spared, but Angel moved into the house with him.</p>		
<i>The Road of the Dead</i>	Kevin Brooks	<b>YA FIC BRO</b>
<p>14-year-old Ruben has a special sense of feeling. When his sister is murdered on the English Moors, Ruben can sense that it has happened before any one else knows. Desperate to avenge his sister's murder, Ruben travels to the English countryside to solve the mystery.</p>		
<i>Leaving Jetty Road</i>	Rebecca Burton	<b>YA FIC BUR</b>
<p>Seniors Lise, Nat, and Sofia make a new years resolution to become vegetarians. Nat gets a job at the Wild Carrot Café and meets her first love; Sofia unleashes her free spirit; but Lise becomes anorexic.</p>		
<i>Body Brokers</i>	Annie Cheney	<b>617.9 CHE</b>
<p>Some people choose to donate organs when they die; some don't. Cheney reveals in this book what actually happens to a lot of corpses after they are sent to the mortician- whether they wanted to donate anything or not! In the black market of body brokering, a single dead body can generate up to \$10,000 in profits.</p>		
<i>Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist</i>	Rachel Cohn	<b>YA FIC COH</b>
<p>In alternating chapters, Nick and Norah talk about the night that they met and fell in love at a rock concert. Nick, the bass player in one of the bands, asks Norah to pretend to be his girlfriend for a few minutes when he sees that his ex-girlfriend is at the concert with another guy.</p>		

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<i>Just Listen</i>	Sarah Dessen	<b>YA FIC DES</b>
Annabel was caught with her best friend's boyfriend at a party the summer before her junior year of high school. Her classmates all shun her, but what appeared to be betrayal was actually attempted rape.		
<i>Copper Sun</i>	Sharon Draper	<b>YA FIC DRA</b>
Transported from Africa and sold into slavery in the United States, 15-year-old Amari is treated brutally. An American slave owner purchases Amari to satisfy his son's sexual needs. Strong Amari refuses to bear the inhumanity, and she escapes the plantation with a white girl who is living there as an endangered servant.		
<i>The Burning Bridge</i>	John Flanagan	<b>YA FIC FLA</b>
Sequel to the <i>Ranger's Apprentice</i> , Will and Horace have returned and must defend the Kingdom of Araluen against Morgarath, the Lord of Rain and Night. Morgarath has developed an intricate plan to take over the Kingdom of Araluen, and it will take all of Will's and Horace's strength and wit to foil his evil plans.		
<i>Stay with Me</i>	Garret Freymann-Weyr	<b>YA FIC FRE</b>
Sixteen-year-old Leila is the youngest of her father's children. Leila has two half-sisters from her dad's previous marriage that are more than twenty years older than she is. The history of Leila's two half sisters is a mystery to Leila, but, when one of her sisters commits suicide, Leila is determined to uncover family secrets.		
<i>The Love Curse of the Rumbaughs</i>	Jack Gantos	<b>YA FIC GAN</b>
Small-town girl, Ivy, is infatuated with a pair of albino twins, Abner and Adolf Rumbaugh. As a child, Ivy enjoyed playing at the Rumbaugh's pharmacy, but as she gets older, she discovers the Rumbaugh curse- all Rumbaugh's have an unexplainable infatuation and obsession with their mothers.		
<i>Ithaka</i>	Adaele Geras	<b>YA FIC GER</b>
A retelling of Homer's <i>The Odyssey</i> , this novel looks at the ancient Greek myth from an entirely new angle. Beautiful Penelope is left behind, anxiously awaiting the return of her husband, Odysseus, from the Trojan War. A plethora of suitors arrive at the castle to claim Penelope's hand, but she will not be convinced that her beloved is truly dead.		
<i>Becoming Chloe</i>	Catherine Ryan Hyde	<b>YA FIC HYD</b>
Jordan and Chloe met when Jordan tried to save Chloe from a gang rape on the streets of New York. After the attack, the two homeless teens become close friends and share the hidden secrets about their horrific pasts with each other.		

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<i>Bad Kitty</i>	Michele Jaffe	<b>YA FIC JAF</b>
17-year-old Jasmine Callihan was trying to have a relaxing, non-eventful vacation in Las Vegas with her father and stepmother, but that just doesn't seem possible. A little boy and his three-legged cat are drawn to Jas, and, despite her better plans, Jas finds herself in the middle of solving a murder mystery.		
<i>The Dead Beat</i>	Marilyn Johnson	<b>070.4 JOH</b>
Johnson describes the life of obituary writing journalists. In the past, writing obituaries was the lowest job in journalism, but Johnson attempts to disprove all the myths that writing obituaries is easy and dull.		
<i>Weedflower</i>	Cynthia Kadohata	<b>YA FIC KAD</b>
12-year-old Japanese American, Sumiko, is forced with her family to leave their flower farm in California to join an internment camp at an Indian reservation in Arizona when Pearl Harbor is bombed. Although she hates the reservation, Sumiko finds solstice in a small flower garden that she is creating.		
<i>Freaks</i>	Annette Curtis Klause	<b>YA FIC KLA</b>
Seventeen-year-old Abel lives in a community of "freaks" who work for a circus. His mother has no arms, and his father has no legs, but Abel is quite normal. His only romantic experience was with Phoebe, the dog-faced girl in the show. Longing to know what exists in the world of normality, Abel runs away with twelve-year-old Apollo, the puppy-faced boy.		
<i>The Girls</i>	Lori Lansens	<b>FIC LAN</b>
Rose and Ruby Darlen are Siamese twins that share the same head. Doctors said that the girls would not survive, but, somehow, they have lived to be twenty-nine already. This is the autobiography of the two girls told separately.		
<i>Solstice Wood</i>	Patricia A. McKillip	<b>FIC MCK</b>
Sylvia Lynn lives a quiet and successful life as owner of a thriving bookstore in Los Angeles. Her peace is interrupted, however, when she learns that her grandfather has died and she must return to her family's home, Lynn Hall, and the terrifying woods that are behind the home.		
<i>Black Swan Green</i>	David Mitchell	<b>FIC MIT</b>
Jason lives in Black Swan Green in Worcester, England, and he detests his small town and longs to go somewhere new. He begins his story on the fateful day when he smashes his grandfather's irreplaceable watch and ends his story with Christmas. Jason struggles with a stuttering problem that makes him a target for bullies.		

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*Dairy Queen*

Catherine Gilbert Murdock

**YA FIC MUR**

15-year-old D.J. is a bit of a tom-boy, and she becomes even more so when her father, a dairy farmer, becomes injured, and D.J. starts doing most of the work on the farm. As if working on the farm and going to school isn't enough to keep D.J. busy, she agrees to train Brian for football tryouts at their local high school.

*Wait for Me*

An Na

**YA FIC NA**

Mina spent all of high school lying about her grades by forging her report card for her mother's too high expectations. Now, her senior year has arrived, and all the lies are about to be revealed. Mina struggles to confront her mother about her unrealistic expectations and about her cruel treatment of Mina's younger, hearing impaired sister, Suna.

*Here Lies the Librarian*

Richard Peck

**YA FIC PEC**

Fourteen-year-old Pewee McGrath lives in the year 1914, and she is obsessed with racecars. Pewee and her brother Jake spend all of their time building a racecar in their garage. You can imagine Pewee's surprise when four young librarians come to town who also have a passion for racecars!

*King Dork*

Frank Portman

**YA FIC POR**

Tom Henderson is a sophomore in high school and a big loser. Tom tells his story of dealing with high school bullies, humiliating name calling, and his passion in life to start a band. When Tom finds his father's old copy of *Catcher in the Rye*, he uses it to uncover clues about his father's mysterious death.

*A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life*

Dana Reinhardt

**YA FIC REI**

Dark skinned and dark eyed, it is very obvious that sixteen-year-old Simone is adopted by her two fair-skinned parents. It does, however, come as a surprise to Simone when her biological mother contacts Simone's family requesting to see her daughter.

*Chew on This*

Eric Schlosser

**YA 394 .1 SCH**

The history of today's fast food chains is revealed in this book. Schlosser covers everything from the appallingly long shelf life of the food to the ultimate results of childhood obesity. If you're ready to toss the burgers and McNuggets in the trash, then this is the book for you.

*Amazing Grace*

Megan Shull

**YA FIC SHU**

Grace "the Ace" Kincaid is a beautiful tennis superstar, but she wants to lead a normal life away from the paparazzi and the fame. Her supportive mother agrees to let Grace retire from tennis, and she changes her name and her look and moves to Alaska.

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<i>Enthusiasm</i>	Polly Sulman	<b>YA FIC SHU</b>
<p>Julie narrates this witty and humorous story about her friendship with Ashleigh. Ashleigh is an enthusiast who bounces from one interest to the next. Each time Ashleigh selects a new hobby, she devotes her time whole-heartedly to her interest and drags Julie along with her. Julie doesn't really mind until one day Ashleigh decides she is obsessed with Jane Austen (Julie's favorite author).</p>		
<i>A Bad Boy Can Be Good for a Girl</i>	Tanya Lee Stone	<b>YA FIC STO</b>
<p>Take one dreamy senior boy and three confused young girls, and you have the basis for this coming-of-age story. Written entirely in prose, Josie, Nicolette, and Aviva all fall for the charmingly bad ways of the same popular high school senior.</p>		
<i>Ptolemy's Gate</i>	Jonathan Stroud	<b>YA FIC STR</b>
<p>The third and final chapter of the Bartimaeus Trilogy, this book will not disappoint fans. Bartimaeus, Nathaniel, and Kitty return in all their splendor to embark on more adventure. Bartimaeus' history is finally revealed as the story looks back to ancient Egypt.</p>		
<i>The King of Attolia</i>	Megan Whalen Turner	<b>YA FIC TUR</b>
<p>Gen and Eugenides return once again in this third book after <i>The Thief</i> and <i>The Queen of Attolia</i>. Gen and Eugenides are now happily married, but the royal staff still struggles to accept their former enemy and new king. The story is told from the point of view of Costis, Gen's personal assistant.</p>		
<i>It's Kind of a Funny Story</i>	Ned Vizzini	<b>YA FIC VIZ</b>
<p>Craig Gilner is depressed, and he starts smoking dope and develops an eating disorder, but his final call for attention is his attempted suicide. Craig winds up in a mental ward in Manhattan, but it is currently under construction, so he gets put with the adults (the real loonies, not just a bunch of other depressed teens!).</p>		
<i>Rooftop</i>	Paul Volponi	<b>YA FIC VOL</b>
<p>Clay cleans up his drug addicted life when his parents send him to an adult day school and a drug program. His life gets even better when his cousin Addison ends up in the same program. Everything changes, however, when Addison is shot on a rooftop project by a police officer.</p>		
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak	<b>YA FIC ZUS</b>
<p>Liesel is a young German orphan growing up during World War II. She is sent to live in a foster home in a working class neighborhood shortly after she steals her first book. Liesel, though a thief, is a remarkable girl with a passion for reading and an uncanny ability to make unusual friends.</p>		

*Compiled by Beth Blood 2006*